

## **SESSION 11 – CONTAINER ON BARGE: PROBLEMS, PRACTICAL AND POLITICAL**

### **CHAIR**

Bill Ellis, Port Authority of New York  
and New Jersey

### **COORDINATOR**

Jim McCarville, Port of Pittsburgh

### **TITLE OF PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKERS**

“Stream-of-Commerce Container Study”  
by Robert Holliday, U.S. Customs  
Service

“Calculating the Public Air Quality  
Benefits of Private Container on Barge  
Movements” by James Corbett,  
University of Delaware

“How One State Looks at Air Quality  
and Maritime/Container on Barge  
Issues” by Bill Jordan, Texas National  
Resource Conservation Commission

“Operational Issues Initiating a  
Container on Barge Service” by William  
Edwing, Osprey Lines

“Discussion: Devising a Research  
Strategy for Container on Barge” by Jim  
McCarville, Port of Pittsburgh

### **SUMMARY**

#### Stream-of-Commerce Container Study

To accommodate a scheduling complication, the panel opened with an interesting presentation by Robert Holliday, U.S. Customs Officer, regarding the tracking of containers between the U.S. and Canada. This technology will also be very useful for containers moving in the coastwise and inland river trade.

#### Calculating the Public Air Quality Benefits of Private Container on Barge Movements

As a researcher and professor at the University of Delaware, James Corbett presented research indicating that savings in air emissions could be accomplished under certain container on barge services, but not necessarily all. He laid out a methodology to examine the relative advantages, as well as the advantages of certain clean burning new engines.

#### How One State Looks at Air Quality and Maritime/Container on Barge Issues

William Jordan presented the perspective of the regulatory battles in south Texas that looked at Container on Barge as a solution to the movement of cargo. He reviewed the pros and cons that were present in the debate as well as how Texas looked at solutions to those issues.

#### Operational Issues Initiating a Container on Barge Service

As an operator engaged in the Container on Barge business in the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, William Ewing presented the operational considerations and advantages that led to the successful business operations of Osprey Lines, Inc. in moving containerized cargo on barges in and out of the Houston hub. His statistics surprisingly could beat road and rail traffic in certain markets.

#### Discussion: Devising a Research Strategy for Container on Barge

James McCarville presented the efforts of the Port of Pittsburgh to help organize container on barge markets, including the SmartBarge.com marketing tool to

electronically link potential shippers and carriers.